

TAKE NOTES

Read Fluently

Read the underlined sentence aloud. How do you think Arthur said it? Circle the letter of the best choice below. Then circle the punctuation in the underlined sentence that points to the answer.

- (a) in a loud, angry voice
- (b) in a tired, weary voice
- (c) in a frightened, trembling voice
- (d) in a dangerously quiet voice

English Language Development

A famous English spelling rule says:

Use i before e except after c

Or when sounded like A as in neighbor and weigh.

Of course, there are exceptions, but *shield* follows the rule. So do all the incomplete words below. Complete each by adding *ie* or *ei* on the line. Also say the words aloud.

bel__ve f__rce rec__ve
c__ling gr__ve shr__k
dec__ve p__rce d v__l

Stop to Reflect

The word *wound* has two different pronunciations. Rhymed with *ground*, it means "twisted or turned." Rhymed with *tuned*, it means "an injury" or "to injure."

(1) What is the word's meaning here?

(2) How should the word be pronounced here?

Sir Lucan, one of Arthur's knights, advises him not to fight. He points out that Arthur has already won the day and reminds the king of his dream. But Arthur insists on fighting Mordred.

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Then the King got his spear in both his hands and ran toward Sir Mordred, crying and saying, "Traitor, now is thy deathday come!"

And when Sir Mordred saw King Arthur he ran until him with his sword drawn in his hand, and there King Arthur smote Sir Mordred under the shield, with a thrust of his spear, throughout the body more than a fathom.⁹ And when Sir Mordred felt that he had his death's wound, he thrust himself with the might that he had up to the burr¹⁰ of King Arthur's spear, and right so he smote his father King Arthur with his sword holden in both his hands, upon the side of the head, that the sword pierced the helmet and the casing of the brain. And therewith Sir Mordred dashed down stark dead to the earth.

And noble King Arthur fell in a swough¹¹ to the earth, and there he swooned oftentimes, and Sir Lucan and Sir Bedivere oftentimes heaved him up. And so, weakly betwixt¹² them, they led him to a little chapel not far from the seaside.

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Vocabulary Development

smote (SMOHT) *v.* struck down or killed; past tense of *smite*
swooned (SWOOND) *v.* fainted

9. **fathom** (FATH uhm) *n.* six feet.

10. **burr** hand guard.

11. **swough** (SWŌ) *n.* faint or swoon.

12. **betwixt** (buh TWIXT) *prep.* between.